

REMARKS

Traversal of the Restriction Requirement

As indicated in the MPEP:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions (MPEP 803, 8th edition, page 800-4, column 1).

A search and examination of the claims involving administration of an agent that inhibits expression or activity of p46 Shc and/or p52 Shc has extensive overlap, and thus, can be made without serious burden

Although the claims of Groups I and II are patentably distinct, a search and examination of the claims of Groups I and II can be made without serious burden, and thus, should be examined in one application. The claims of Groups I and II are directed to a method for treating a subject afflicted with a proliferative disorder comprising administration to the subject an agent that inhibits the expression of p46 Shc and/or p52 Shc (Group I) or an agent that inhibits the activity of p46 Shc and/or p52 (Group II). Clearly, a search of the art for a method which involves administration of an agent that inhibits **expression** of p46 Shc and/or p52 Shc would have extensive overlap with a search of the art for a method which involves administration of an agent that inhibits **activity** of p46 Shc and/or p52 Shc, since agents that inhibit expression of p46 Shc and/or p52 Shc would also inhibit activity of p46 Shc and/or p52 Shc.

The same reasoning applies to the claims of Groups IV and V and the claims of Groups X and XI. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the claims of Groups I and II be examined in a single application, that the claims of Groups IV and V be examined in a single application, and that the claims of Groups X and XI be examined in a single application.

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Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the Supplemental IDS is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By Anne J. Collins

Anne J. Collins

Registration No. 40,564

Telephone: (978) 341-0036

Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

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